

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 CG-00 DOTE-00 EB-11 DLOS-06 /113 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/LA-PLC:JLMARTIN

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S/S- MR. LUERS

REMER

MR. LUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 045447

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OCON

SUBJECT: MFM: DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 4: PANAMA CANAL

1. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION OF ITEM 4 PANAMA CANAL, AT THE MFM IN MEXICO CITY. THESE REMARKS WERE TRANSCRIBED BY U.S. REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT AT THE MEETING. IT IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR BACKGROUND USE.

2. FONMIN THOMPSON (JAMAICA) SPOKE FOR LA WORKING GROUP:

A. I AM NOT SUGGESTING ANY CHANGE IN FRUITFUL APPROACH WHICH HAS NOW TAKEN PLACE ON THIS ISSUE. I WOULD LIKE TO SIGNAL INEVITABILITY OF GRADUAL APPROACH AND EXTRAORDINARY WATCHFULNESS IN LA TO SEE HOW LARGE STRONG NATION FACING STRONG SMALL NATION PROCEEDS TO JUST RESOLUTION.

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B. WHEN FIRST NEWS OF DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

CAME THERE WERE THOSE WHO THOUGHT FINAL TREATY  
HAD BEEN SIGNED. THIS AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES IS  
NOT A BLANK CHECK WITH NO DATE FOR ENCASHMENT.  
I AM HEARTENED BY U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION  
BROUGHT HERE.

C. WE ANTICIPATE EARLY SUCCESS. WE UNDERSTAND  
BALL NOW IN COURT OF GOP. THERE IS NO LACK OF  
FAITH AND UNDERSTANDING WHICH IS WHY WE SPEAK OF  
CONTINUING EXPEDITIOUS ACTION.

3. FONMIN RABASA (MEXICO) SPEAKING AS HEAD OF DELEGATION:  
I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF JAMAICAN FONMIN.  
I HAVE NEGOTIATED COMPLICATED MATTERS FOR MY COUNTRY WITH  
DR. KISSINGER, AND I BELIEVE WITH HIS USUAL AUDACITY AND  
COURAGE HE WILL RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM.

4. SECTY KISSINGER: A. NEGOTIATIONS NOW GOING ON  
BETWEEN DEPUTY NEGOTIATORS. FONMIN TACK WILL VISIT  
WASHINGTON AT TIME OF HIS CHOOSING, AND WE HOPE MAKE  
MORE PROGRESS ON POLITICAL LEVEL THAN IS POSSIBLE WITH  
DEPUTY NEGOTIATORS.

B. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO UNDERSTAND ISSUE OF PANAMA  
CANAL IS NOT EASY FOR US FROM DOMESTIC POINT OF VIEW.

C. AT SAME TIME I AFFIRM WE INTEND TO IMPLEMENT  
PRINCIPLES WE SIGNED WITH ENERGY AND CONVICTION. THIS  
IS NOT JUST MATTER OF EXECUTIVE DISCRETION. THERE MAY  
BE A PROBLEM IN CONGRESS.

5. FONMIN RABASA: THIS IS EVIDENCE OF ADVANCE BEGUN IN  
BOGOTA AND CONTINUED HERE IN TLATELOLCO. IT IS ONLY  
FIRST STEP, BUT RADICAL STEP AS REPRESENTS CHANGE IN US  
ATTITUDE OF INDIFFERENCE ON PANAMA CANAL. IT WAS  
POSSIBLE BY COURAGEOUS EFFORTS OF GEN. TORRIJOS AND  
FONMIN TACK AND COURAGE AND AUDACITY OF DR. KISSINGER.  
I THINK WE SHOULD APPLAUD. (APPLAUSE).

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6. FONMIN TACK: IN NAME MY GOVT WE ARE PLEASED TO  
HEAR REITERATED DEMONSTRATION OF UNITY AND SOLIDARITY  
OF LA TOWARD IMPORTANT COMMON PROBLEM. IT MAKES US  
ALL VERY PROUD. I AM HAPPY SECTY KISSINGER HAS REFERRED  
IN FRANK AND BROAD MANNER TO NEGOTIATION OF NEW TREATY.  
WE ARE PERMANENTLY AVAILABLE TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS  
WITH SAME SPIRIT. I AGREE TREATY (PRINCIPLES) IS FIRST  
STEP BUT OF TRANSCENDENCE. DIFFERENT STAGES OF

NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE DIFFICULT, BUT I AM SURE CAN BE

OVERCOME BY APPROPRIATE POLITICAL DECISIONS AT RIGHT TIMES.

OUR PURPOSE IS PERFECTION OF OUR POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS, INTERNATIONAL CANALS, SELFDETERMINATION  
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**To:** ALL POSTS  
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